FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 APRIL 1984

Lebanon

Lebanese-Syrian Summit — President Amin al-Jumayyil returned to Beirut early on 20 April after lengthy talks in Damascus with President Hafiz al-Asad and other Syrian officials, Beirut radio reported. Al-Jumayyil said the discussions were successful and their results will become evident soon, according to press reports cited by the radio. Damascus radio said the talks were held in a positive, fraternal, and optimistic atmosphere, adding that Al-Asad and Al-Jumayyil agreed on "a host of principles," including the importance of forming a national unity government.

Security/Military Situation — The situation in the capital was relatively calm as the cease-fire observer force began deploying under the supervision of the Security Arrangements Committee, Beirut radio reported. Although the operation was delayed by sniper fire, members of the committee subsequently expressed satisfaction with the steps taken. The deployment of observers is expected to continue on 20 April along with the establishment of posts manned by the Internal Security Forces to ensure the disengagement of hostile gunmen, according to the radio.

Meanwhile, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported "tension" in the Al-Biqa' valley after further clashes along the Syrian-Israeli combat lines. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon cited reports that the Syrians have placed their forces on maximum alert. The IDF spokesman, in a communique reported by Jerusalem radio, announced that another Israeli soldier was injured in a grenade attack in An-Nabatiyah.

UNIFIL — Commenting on the Security Council decision to extend UNIFIL's mandate another 6 months, Israel's UN ambassador described the resolution as unsatisfactory because UNIFIL is incapable of maintaining security in southern Lebanon and would be useful only as a buffer between the Israeli and Syrian forces, Jerusalem radio reported.

Libya

The crisis in Anglo-Libyan relations can be resolved if the British lift the siege of the London People's Bureau and release the Libyans there, Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki stated in an interview broadcast by Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio. He termed the British demand to search the Bureau "unacceptable" but opined that the British will not insist on this. While reaffirming Libya's view that the British authorities were responsible for the "fabricated" crisis, At-Turayki confirmed that the Libyan and British governments were holding contacts "at high levels" to contain the situation and find an amicable solution.

At-Turayki subsequently held another meeting with the British ambassador in Tripoli during which both sides affirmed their desire for a peaceful solution to the crisis, according to JANA and London PRESS ASSOCIATION. Earlier, "angry" demonstrators marched to the British Embassy in Tripoli and delivered a protest note denouncing the "horrible act" committed against the People's Bureau and warning Britain that any attempt to storm the building will have "grave consequences," Tripoli radio reported.

Egypt

Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, speaking at a Khartoum news conference reported by MENA, indicated that Egypt and the Soviet Union have agreed in principle to exchange ambassadors, adding that a possible exchange of envoys will not prevent the latter from maintaining its "distinguished" relations with the United States.

Jerusalem Committee

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, speaking at the opening session of the Islamic Conference Organization's Jerusalem Committee meeting in Fes, warned of a "Zionist conspiracy" to obliterate the vestiges of Islam and Christianity from Jerusalem. In his remarks, broadcast by Rabat radio, 'Arafat called on the Islamic countries to take "large-scale" action to confront both Israeli designs on the city and possible U.S. moves to transfer the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

U.S.-Arab Relations

Jordan's King Husayn condemned attempts to move the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem during recent meetings with Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs,and with a visiting U.S. congressional delegation, according to Amman television and Jordan's *AR-RA'Y*. Meanwhile, in the wake of Murphy's visit to Kuwait, QNA cited press reports that the United States has offered to sell Kuwait fighter aircraft and an advanced air defense system.

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Materials on AAPSO Regional Meeting in Kabul

Final Communique Quoted

LD200838 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Kabul, April 19, BAKHTAR — The Reagan Administration has aggravated the tension all over the world and is pursuing a policy of intervention pressure, blackmail and destabilization in Asia. This was stated in the communique adopted by the participants of the Asian regional consultative meeting of the Asian-African Peace Solidarity Organisation (AAPSO) which concluded today in Kabul.

The representatives of the solidarity committees from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Kampuchea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Laos, Mongolia, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, USSR, Mongolia, Vietnam and People's Democratic Republic of Yeman text [as received] have discussed the present situation in Asia in the context of global developments.

The growing militarization of the Indian Ocean and the gulf, the linkage of the ocean strategy with the Pacific region pose a grave threat of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the countries of Asia, the communique said. The revival of militarization in Japan and the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul military alliance and the deployment of varieties of nuclear weapons in the Far East as an extension of the strategy of deploying Pershing II and cruise missiles in Europe have further perpetuated the crisis.

The participants of the meeting decided to intensify their activities on national level to mobilize public opinion in the individual countries, depending on the circumstances, against the machinations of US imperialism, Chinese hegemonism transnational corporations and neo-colonialist forces.

All the different aspects of imperialist intrigues in various regions of Asia were thoroughly discussed at the meeting and the participants agreed to put forward before the 6th AAPSO congress at Algiers the concrete proposals that emerged out of the discussion. The participants decided to make the best of preparations to popularize the Algiers congress.

The participants of the meeting warmly thanked the Afghan people and government, the peace, solidarity and friendship organization of Afghanistan for their hospitality and cooperation.

Ratebzad Addresses Meeting

LD200902 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0427 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Kabul, april 19, BAKHTAR — The Asian regional consultative meeting of Asian-African Peace Solidarity Organisation (AAPSO) concluded here today. The participants of the meeting discussed the acute international problems, especially the tense situation of Asia. They also put forward concrete proposals to be studied in the forthcoming sixth congress of AAPSO in Algiers scheduled for May 20 to 26.

The participants of the meeting adopted a "communique" and a "message to the people of Afghanistan".

Speaking at today's meeting, Dr Anahita Ratebzad, Politburo member of the PDPA CC, president of peace, solidarity and friendship organisation of the DRA said that the backbone of the enemy and counter-revolution has been broken inside the territory of the DRA and they no longer have the power to deter the progress of the revolution.

She added that following the general amnesty of the presidium of the Revolutionary Council, the counter-revolutionary bands in thousands, with their arms joined the side of the party and state of the DRA.

Dwelling on the conspiracies of Britain and the United States unleashed against the party, state and the people of the DRA throughout Pakistan and Iran, she emphasized that the people of Afghanistan led by the PDPA and the state of the DRA will successfully move forward to the destiny chosen by them and would not let anybody detract them from their path.

Talking on the position taken by the PDPA and the state of the DRA concerning the peaceful solution of the situation around Afghanistan and improvement of the relations with the neighboring countries, Anahita Ratebzal said the reaction of the region especially the Pakistani militarists who are the puppets of imperialism and Reagan's administration had never wanted the problems to be solved.

Other speakers of the seminar included the representatives of Laos, Democratic Republic of Yemen, Bangladesh, the Soviet Union, Nepal, Kampuchea and India. They dwelt on the tense situation of Asia and the region and put forward proposals to be discussed in the forthcoming sixth congress of AAPSO to be held in Algeria.

Karmal Receives Participants

LD200858 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Kabul, April 19, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, received the participants of the meeting of Asian-African Peace and Solidarity Organisation (AAPSO) here today. Addressing the participants of AAPSO, Babrak Karmal stated that Afghanistan is the victim of the most aggressive, imperialist and reactionary forces headed by U.S. imperialism which unleashed an undeclared war against a sovereign state. The counter-revolutionary elements stationed in Pakistan are flooded with U.S. money, arms and ammunitions. Right now, there exists over 90 bases for the military training of the counter-revolutionaries.

Babrak Karmal added that the valourous people of Afghanistan are faced with undeclared war of imperialism in all spheres of life, social, economic, military and political. However, Babrak Karmal noted, our people fight against them, defend the gains of the April revolution and endeavour hard for the realisation of the objectives of the revolution.

Babrak Karmal said that the party, state and the Afghan people hold the AAPSO in high esteem as it carries on an anti-imperialist struggle alongside the other anti-imperialist movements.

Chitta Biswas, deputy general secretary of AAPSO expressed his thanks to Babrak Karmal for recieving the participants of AAPSO meeting and assured him of AAPSO's further solidarity with the people of Afghanistan.

Message Sent to DRA

LD200906 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Kabul, april 19, BAKHTAR — The participants of the Asian regional consultative meeting of the Asian-African Peace Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) resolutely condemned the plots and conspiracies of the American imperialism and regional reaction against the April revolution and the Afghan people. They strongly demanded the immediate cessation of all forms of intervention in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

This was said (?in a) "message to the people of Afghanistan" adopted by the participants of the meeting, which concluded here today.

"We welcome the realistic, constructive and flexible proposals of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan aimed at a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan", the message said. Message calls upon all the peace-loving, democratic and progressive forces of the world to strengthen their solidarity with the struggle of the Afghan people under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan led by babrak Karmal, secretary general of the People's Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and President of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA for peace and social progress.

On the eve of the 6th anniversary of the Sawr revolution the participants of the meeting expressed their full solidarity and best wishes to the people of Afghanistan, who are building a new society free from exploitation and oppression.

Resistance Leader Rabbani on Settlement, Support

GF200908 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0615 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Paris, 20 Apr (WAKH) — Professor Borhaneddin Rabbani, president of the Islamic Society for Resistance in Afghanistan, has announced that contacts were previously held by the Soviet Union with the Afghan mujahidin to discuss a possible peace settlement. He said: However, these Soviet attempts are only deceptions in which the Soviets are trying to annihilate Afghan resistance. If the mujahidin stop armed struggle and talks fail, it will be difficult to mobilize people again. In a statement to the WAKH correspondent in Paris, Prof Rabbani said: If we abandon armed struggle and depend on [words indistinct] alone, we will be left at the mercy of the invading force.

Prof Rabbani, who is in his forties and who was studying Islamic philosophy and jurisprudence at Kabul University before the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, said: We believe in peaceful settlement if it is coupled with armed struggle. There cannot be any political solution without our military forces.

Regarding UN efforts to find a peaceful settlement for the Afghan issue by returning the Afghan refugees and through the Afghan opposition's participation in ruling Kabul, Prof Rabbani said: The issue is not the return of refugees; the issue is the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. The refugees resulted from this invasion and we cannot think of the result without the reason if we are seriously trying to find a solution.

On the Babrak Karmal government, Prof Rabbani said it is illegitimate [words indistinct] the invading Soviet forces. Prof Rabbani called on the Soviets [words indistinct] and if Babrak Karmal has a force in the Afghan people, let it defend this people after that. If the matter is not that, he will face his inevitable fate.

The president of the Islamic Society for Afghan Resistance indicated that no solution can be reached except through the two parties: the Soviets and the Afghan mujahidin. Why do we accept an armed solution in Vietnam and some African countries and other countries and reject it in Islamic countries? he asked.

On the military aid the Afghan mujahidin receive, Prof Rabbani said: The Afghan resistance does not receive any military aid from any party, not Iran or Pakistan. He indicated that the aid Iran is extending to the resistance is in hosting 1.5 million refugees. Also, at some places on the border, Iran allows wounded Afghan fighters to take refuge in Iranian territory to be treated there. The same thing applies to Pakistan. He indicated that there is some aid for the people of some (?Arab) and Islamic countries to the Afghan resistance, but it is irregular. The resistance's situation is difficult because it has to survive with irregular aid, he added. He asserted that the resistance needs a specific budget to enable it improve its action and raise the efficiency of its combatants, noting that most of the weapons of the Afghan resistance are obtained from the remnants of the Afghan and Soviet Army after the battles won by the Afghan mujahidin.

It should be noted that the organization which Prof Rabbani is leading is one of the strongest and most efficient Afghan resistance organs on land, both in its military activities and in the massive support it receives.

Prof Rabbani praised Saudi Arabia's stand in support of the Afghan cause and considered its support for the mujahidin basic and clear.

Talking about the morale of the Soviet Army, the president of the Islamic Society for Afghan Resistance said: It is collapsing, some Muslim and non-Muslim Soviet soldiers have joined the Afghan mujahidin. This has compelled the Soviet military command to reduce the number of Muslim Soviet soldiers inside Afghanistan [words indistinct] and they are trying (?to join) the Afghan mujahidin.

Prof Rabbani affirmed [words indistinct]: We are ready to provide facilities for journalists who wish to see them.

On his talks with French officials, the president of the Islamic Society for Afghan Resistance said: They are the first official step the Afghan resistance has made in establishing diplomatic relations with other countries, particularly the West. We may open the road for intensifying diplomatic moves by the Afghan resistance in the West. Besides, its participation in the Islamic Conference summit will pave the way for participation in other international bodies.

It should be noted that Prof Rabbani represented the Afghan resistance in the recent Islamic summit in Casablanca as an observer.

Karachi Radio Reports on Mujahidin Attacks

Tanker Convoy Raided

BK191158 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] The Afghan mujahidin are reported to have carried out an attack near Qandahar on a big convoy of tankers carrying petrol; 22 tankers are stated to have been burned. The report adds that the road from Herat to Qandahar is still dangerous as most of the bridges on it have been destroyed and there are mines on both sides of the road. The trucks have to travel through open areas instead of the road in the last 30-40 km part before Qandahar.

Qandahar, Zabol Actions

BK200705 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, Soviet-Karmal military aircraft bombarded Dand and Spin Buldak subdivisions of Qandahar Province, killing 15 civilians and destroying 40 houses. The mujahidin killed a number of Soviet-Karmal soldiers and destroyed many armored vehicles, including two tanks, in guerrilla operations.

In Zabol Province more than 20 Karmal soldiers, including 4 officers stationed at Qalat-i-Ghelzai, have joined the mujahidin.

Violence Reported in Punjab; 2 Die in Haryana
BK191607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] The Chandigarh administration has decided to extend the curfew in the union territory during the day tomorrow. This follows some violent incidents today. The curfew will be in force from 1930 this evening to 0600 Saturday. However, tomorrow curfew will be relaxed for 2 hours, from 0800 to 1000. Passes will be issued to those going to churches for Good Friday prayers.

The administration has banned pillion riding on two-wheelers with immediate effect. The order will, however, not apply to women and children.

More police reinforcements have arrived in Chandigarh. The curfew in Moga and (Bagpulmar) towns of Faridkot district has been extended indefinitely.

Meanwhile, in Chandigarh groups of youths forced shopkeepers to close their shops in some parts of the city. One person was killed and another injured when some unidentified miscreants from amongst these groups indulged in firing at two different places. The police have arrested 17 persons on charges of murder, attempted murder, and defiance of prohibitory orders.

An official spokesman clarified in Chandigarh this evening that some activists of the banned All India Sikh Students Federation fired at a police station in Fazilka in Ferozepur district last evening resulting in injuries to one assistant subinspector of police. Two activists were killed and one injured when the police returned the fire.

The Akali Dal Chief, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, has again appealed to the people to maintain communal peace and amity in the state.

In Haryana some (?car-borne) miscreants shot at a police patrol party in Ambala cantonment this evening, killing two policemen including assistant subinspector. According to reports from Chandigarh, the patrolling party was closing in on the miscreants when the incident took place.

Sikhs Demolish Rails, Kill Five
BK191650 Hong Kong AFP in English 1634 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] New Delhi, April 19 (AFP) — Sikh militants killed five people, including two policemen, and blew up a railway track in esclated attacks in the past 24 hours to press demands for political and religious concessions, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported late today.

The authorities today extended a dawn-to-dusk curfew imposed last night in Chandigarh, after clashes violence in which 30 people were injured, as tension remained high in the city, joint capital of Punjab and Haryana states.

One man was shot dead and another injured, both Hindus, when a procession by the Chandigarh Gurdwara (Sikh Temple) coordination committee turned violent, PTI said.

Seventeen people, including a local leader of the Sikh Akali Party Amar Singh Chahal, were arrested this evening on alleged charges of murder and unlawful assembly folowing the two incidents.

Meanwhile in Hindu-dominated Haryana State, six unidentified people in a car shot at blank range at Sub-Inspector Shiv Singh and Constable Santokh Kumar in in Ambala Cantonment, killing them on the spot, PTI said.

Station Raided; 'Spy' Detained
BK200849 Hong Kong AFP in English 0710 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] New Delhi, April 20 (AFP) — High tension prevailed today as Sikh militants raided and set fire to a railway station in Punjab State, local news agencies said. The majority of Chandigarh's half-a-million residents remained indoors, after authorities yesterday announced the extension of a dusk-to dawn curfew until Sunday. Christian residents of the city — which Punjab shares as its capital with neighbouring Hindu-Dominated Haryana State — were issued special curfew passes to enable them to visit churches on easter.

Jogiwala railway station on the Ferozepur-Jalandhar section was the target of the pre-dawn attacks, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency said. The fire destroyed official records and ticket rooms of the station.

Meanwhile, stray incidents of violence continued in the Punjab today, where a section of India's Sikhs are campaigning for political and religious concessions. PTI said that a state-owned bus was set on fire by Sikh militants in Ferozepur District.

In a separate incident today, federal security forces arrested a Pakistani national in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar. PTI described him as a "Pakistani agent" and said he was taken into custody as soon as he alighted from the Lahore-Amritsar express train.

PTI said that the man who identified himself Malik Singh, a non-Moslem name, was carrying a fake army Identification card. It was not known if the card was of the Indian or Pakistani army. Police also recovered two kilograms (4.4 pounds) of opium from his possession.

Yesterday, at least six people were killed in day-long violence inthe Punjab when sikh militants clashed with police and Hindus in the state, PTI said.

Sikhs also staged a demonstration protesting attacks on their property by a Hindu funeral procession earlier this week.

Also yesterday, a section of rail track was blown up. Punjab's railways, fully owned by the Federal Indian Government, has lately become the main target of Sikh militant attacks.

Last weekend, more than 40 railway stations came under attack and several of them were set ablaze.

Pakistani Aircraft To Be Returned With Crew

BK200850 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] According to a PTI report, the union government has ordered the release of the Pakistani aircraft, along with its two crew members, which landed at Mukerian in the Hoshiarpur district of Punjab on Wednesday. The release order was given after the Pakistan Government expressed regrets over violation of Indian airspace.

Rao on Sri Lankan Air Travel Restrictions

BK180919 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] The Indian high commissioner in Colombo is in touch with the Sri Lankan authorities for reconsidering the recent exchange control restrictions on Sri Lankan nationals for travel to destinations in south India by air. This was disclosed by the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, in the Lok Sabha today. They now require P form clearance, which is granted once in 2 years. Prior to the restriction, P form clearance for these destinations was not required. The minister said these restrictions do not apply to travel by ferry.

The Sri Lankan authorities say the restriction has been imposed to avoid loss of foreign exchange.

Egyptian Envoy Gives Mubarak Message to Gandhi

BK191629 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] A special envoy from Egypt, Mr 'Abd al-Hamid ash-Shafi, met the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, in New Delhi today and delivered to her a message from President Husni Mubarak. The message is understood to be related to a number of issues of concern to both the countries, like developments in West Asia and the Iran-Iraq war.

President Zail Singh To Visit Mexico, Argentina

BK200409 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] The president, Giani Zail Singh, is paying a state visit to Mexico and Argentina from the 23d to the 30th of this month. The president will have wide-ranging discussions on bilateral and international issues with the president of Mexico, Mr Miguel de la Madrid, and the president of Argentina, Mr Raul Alfonsin. A high-level team led by the secretary of the External Affairs Ministry, Mr Natwar Singh, will accompany the president during his visit to these countries.

Talking to newsmen in New Delhi last evening, Mr Natwar Singh said that this will be the first visit by an Indian president to these countries.

Amir of Qatar Ends Visit, Leaves for Seoul

BK200355 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] A warm and ceremonial send-off was given to the amir of Qatar, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, when he left New Delhi this morning for Seoul at the end of his 3-day state visit to India. The president, the prime minister, and her cabinet colleagues were among those present at the airport.

Minister Predicts Record Food Production

BK191048 Delhi Domestic Srevice in English 0830 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Food production is likely to touch a new high. The agriculture minister, Rao Birendra Singh, announced amidst cheers in the Lok Sabha that the output during 1983-84 is expected to pass an all-time record of 149.76 million tons. This includes a record autumn crop of 88 million tons.

According to latest estimates, rice production is likely to be 59 million tons, coarse cereals about 33 million, and wheat production 44.5 million tons. The minister told the house that the estimates have been prepared cautiously on the basis of confirmed reports from the states so far.

Foreign Office Rejects Indian Allegation

BK191552 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Pakistan has described as totally baseless and incorrect the allegations made by the Indian home minister in which he iinplicated Pakistan in the Sikh protest movement. A Foreign Office spokesman said in a statement in Islamabad today that Pakistan desires to establish tension-free, neighborly relations with India and that it will fully adhere to the principles of noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries. The Government of Pakistan expressed the hope that statements which (?affect) the atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence between the two countries will be avoided.

Embassy in New Delhi Denies Indian Charges

BK200205 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] A press release issued by the Pakistani Embassy in New Delhi described as totally baseless and incorrect the Indian home minister's allegations made in Indian Parliament on Wednesday that Pakistan is involved in the Sikh agitation in India. The embassy said Pakistan desires tension-free, neighborly relations with India. It scrupulously adheres to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

India Asked To Return Cessna Aircraft, Pilots

BK191724 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] The Government of Pakistan has requested the Government of India to return the Cessna aircraft of the Lahore Flying Club along with the pilot and the trainee. It may be recalled that the plane while on a training flight had unintentionally strayed into Indian territory and is understood to have landed at a place 20 miles from Pathankot. The Government of Pakistan has already conveyed its regrets to the Government of India for the incident.

Egyptian Envoy Gives Zia Gulf War Proposal

BK191656 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] The special envoy of the Egyptian president, Mr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf ar-Ribi, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi today. During the meeting, he delivered a letter from the Egyptian president to the president of Pakistan regarding the Egyptian proposal to put an end to the Iran-Iraq war. The special Egyptian envoy is also to visit Bangladesh in this regard.

SRI LANKA

Jayawardene Discusses Terrorism, Indian Support

BK191312 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] President Jayewardene has said that the main problem of the government today is the existence of terrorism. Speaking to planters in Nuwara Eliya today, he said that Mrs Bandaranaike had indicated that if she was given charge of the government or made the minister of national security, she would wipe out terrorism in a few weeks. If she wished, he would export her to Ireland or India to eliminate terrorism in those countries. Responsible leaders such as Mrs Bandaranaike should not make such statements.

The president noted that terrorism could not be curbed overnight. The government was trying to wipe out terrorism through a long-term plan. He further said that there was lawlessness in several countries in the world as well as in Sri Lanka. But, fortunately, lawlessness in our country had not kept pace with the increase of lawlessness in other parts of the world. This could be controlled in our country if terrorism was eliminated in the north and the east.

Mr Jayewardene pointed out that there was an outbreak of lawlessness in the country in July last year; that was a tragic event in our lives. He pointed out that he could not understand why human beings in Colombo should seek to destroy innocent citizens just because they were Tamils, and some people had attacked and killed some in Jaffna. Those incidents were a blot in the history of Sri Lanka. It is the responsibility of everyone to see that the July incidents were not repeated.

The president further said that he felt that we would be able to eliminate terrorism shortly.

He also said that the Indian Government was sympathetic toward Sri Lanka in the sense that it was not for terrorism or for separation. The Indian Government was for the Government of Sri Lanka because it was a democracy, but that was not true with some state governments there. Any disturbance of our freedom would mean the elimination of democracy. He did not think that Mrs Gandhi would advocate or help such an endeavor.

NEPAL

Briefs

Envoy to Brunei — His Majesty the King has concurrently accredited Royal Nepalese Ambassador to Thailand Gyanendra Prasad Pandey to Brunei also. This is stated in a notice published here Thursday by the Principal Press Secretariat of His Majesty the King. [Text] [Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 30 Mar 84 p 1 BK]

Turkish Ambassador — Mr. Ildeniz Divanlioglu has been appointed the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkey to the Kingdom of Nepal, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Divanlioglu resides in New Delhi. [Text] [Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 29 Mar 84 p 1 BK]

Envoy to Sri Lanka — Royal Nepalese Ambassador to Sri Lanka Gehendra Bahadur Rajbhandari presented his credentials to Junius Richard Jayawardene, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Monday, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. [Excerpt] [Katmandu THE RISING NEPAL in English 27 Mar 84 p 1 BK]

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,701

LD191731 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Communique No 1,701 of the Joint Staff Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] Yesterday exchanges of heavy weapons fire were going on along contact lines in the northwestern operational zone. Our artillery units, returning fire, pounded enemy positions and defensive lines and destroyed one mortar, one vehicle, and a number of Saddamist trenches, killing a number of the enemy.

In the western operational zone the powerful combatants of Islam opened heavy weapon fire, stopping motorized movements and enemy vehicular traffic and personnel and foiling their patrol activities.

In the Mehran region our patrols penetrated the enemy's defenses and brought back one excavator of the Saddamist forces as booty. On the various fronts of the western operational zone, two enemy vehicles and five observation posts were destroyed.

In the Abadan and Khorramshar operational zone our forces defended their positions and, opening fire on enemy assembly centers west of the Arvan Rud, destroyed six slit trenches, foxholes, and observation posts of the Saddamist mercenaries.

Yesterday, as a result of enemy's long-range and heavy weapons fire on the city of Abadan, 11 houses and 8 shops were damaged.

Iraq Executes Jurists Who Opposed Regime

GF200550 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] Due to their opposition to the repressive policies of the Saddam regime, two Iraqi jurists have been executed in Baghdad. According to reports received by IRNA, in continuation of its repressive policy, the Saddam regime sent Iraqi jurists Zaki (al-Khansal) and Taha Jamil to the execution squad for their opposition to the antihuman measures of this regime in the city of Baghdad.

It may be recalled that the Zionist Iraqi regime has recently stepped up its policy of suppressing the opposition movement and has purchased U.S. vehicles especially designed for use in street demonstrations which have arrived in Baghdad via the Kuwaiti port of (?Ash-Shuwaykh).

Clandestine Radio on Iraqi Opposition Operations

GF200851 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic 0745 GMT 20 Apr 84

[Text] In an attack against one of the intelligence centers of the Baghdad regime's security forces in the city of al-Musil last week, the Muslim Iraqi strugglers killed or wounded three of the center personnel. Elements from Saddam's security forces attacked a school in Baghdad recently and arrested a number of students.

IRNA: 104 Majlis Deputies Elected to Date

LD191007 Tehran IRNA in ENGLISH 0828 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 19 IRNA — Election results for the second term of the Majlis by Thursday morning indicated that so far 104 deputies have been elected while the result for 18 other constitutencies, inciuding Tehran, have not been announced yet.

Some 1854 candidates nominated themselves throughout the the country for the second term of the Majlis elections, 152 of whom abandoned their candidacy and qualification of 271 others was not approved by the executive and supervision committees.

Therefore, people went to polling stations last Sunday, April 15, to vote for 270 deputies out of the remaining 1161 candidates.

Meanwhile, in the elections for the Assembly of Experts, conducted simultaneously with Majlis elections, so far representatives of Bushehr and Kordestan have been elected and the counting of votes is still underway for the provinces of East Azarbayjan, Tehran, Mazandaran, Gilan and Isfahan.

President Khamene'i Greets Syrian Counterpart

LD191547 Tehran IRNA in English 1400 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 19, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i here today in a message to President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria expressed his congratulations on the occasion of the 38th anniversary of withdrawal of the French troops from Syria. The president further expressed his congratulations to the people of Syria for gaining their independence. The president of the Islamic Republic of Iran wished the Syrian people success in their campaign against the world oppressors and international Zionism, under the leadership of President al-Asad.

In another part of the message it was said that peoples of Iran and Syria with the help of God and through their resistance, would curtail the interests of the world oppressors and pave the way for liberation of the holy Al-Quds.

Velayati Meets Libyan Islamic Society Official

LD191814 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Tehran, April 19, IRNA — The director general for the Libyan Islamic Ad-Da'wa Society, Rajab Abu Bakr Sasi, in a meeting here this morning with the Foreign Affairs Minister, 'Ali Akbar Velayati, reiterated Libya's support for the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Iraqi imposed war. The Libyan Official, who is currently visiting Iran on the invitation of the Foreign Ministry, added that the Iraqi use of chemical warfare against the Islamic combatants was the sign of total colaboration of the Iraqi regime with imperialism and Zionism.

Furthermore, the Libyan official who arrived here last Sunday, conveyed greetings of the secretary of the Libyan People's Committee for Foreign Relations, 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki to Velayati and stressed the need for further expansion of mutal relations between the two Muslim countries.

The Iranian foreign minister, also referring to strategic ties between the two countries, emphasised importance of further development of bilateral relations.

Deported Iranians Arrive in Khark Island

GF191630 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] The Kuwaiti Government, in pursuance of its inimical acts, has ousted another 10 Iranian residents. According to the Central News Unit, this group arrived on Khark Island today after leaving Kuwait in a motor launch.

Iranian Ambassador Meets DPRK Foreign Minister

GF191440 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] The Islamic Republic's ambassador to the DPRK met with the DPRK foreign affairs minister in Pyongyang yesterday. During the meeting, the war imposed by the ruling Zionist regime in Iraq on the Islamic Revolution and that regime's crime of using chemical weapons against soldiers of Islam and residential areas in Islamic Iran were discussed.

The DPRK foreign minister denounced the use of chemical and biological weapons by the Saddamist regime and affirmed the solidarity of the DPRK Government and people with the revolutionary Muslim people of Iran.

Envoy to Hungary Conveys Rafsanjani's Message

GF220709 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Brother (Erazi), ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Hungary, met in Budapest today with the president of the Hungarian National Assembly and delivered a message from Majlis Speaker Brother Hashemi-Rafsanjani on the Iraqi regime's crimes of using chemical weapons in the imposed war. The president of the Hungarian National Assembly condemned the use of chemical weapons. The parties exchanged views during the meeting on means of enhancing relations between Iran and Hungary to benefit the peoples of the two countries.

Opposition Leader Rohani Cites Regime's Shortcomings

PM181926 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 14-20 Apr 84 pp 17-18

[Interview with Ayatollah Mahdi Rohani, "top Iranian religious oppositionist in exile and leader of all Shi'ites in Europe," by Jamal ar-Rawi in Paris — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: How do you assess the situation in Iran?

Answer: To explain Iran's present and future, we should first explain the events of the past few years. What happened in Iran in 1979 was a real revolution of unprecedented depth and dimensions.

What has the new regime done, however? It has, regrettably, misled and betrayed the people and has not fulfilled any of the people's aspirations. It has become a dictatorship. I opposed the shah's regime because I was against injustice and because that region violated the constitution. I supported the new regime at first in the hope that it would restore freedom, but after a while I discovered that the same situation still prevailed. In fact it became worse. That is why I firmly oppose the regime. Today there are 90,000 political prisoners in Iran. Thousands are killed every year simply because their way of thinking differs from the regime's way of thinking. Why all this terror?

Question: Do you expect the regime to fall and, if so, why, how, and when?

Answer: There will inevitably be a fourth revolution in Iran for the simple and basic reason that all the factors which led to the previous revolutions are still present. The present regime has severed the strong link it had with the people. A river of blood now separates the regime from the people. Force, not love or respect, is what keeps Khomeyni in power now. Of course, such a situation cannot last long because the people will swoop down on this regime, just as they did on the shah's regime. When will that happen? I do not know exactly, but I am certain that this regime cannot last more than 2 years.

Question: If the Iranian people are so helpless, how do you explain the fact that scores of thousands are fighting Iraq?

Answer: The maximum number Khomeyni can mobilize now for his battle with Iraq is 250,000. When he first assumed power 5 years ago, he could have easily mobilized more than 1 million people. One should not form the impression that even the 250,000 people we mentioned are all willing to risk their lives for Khomeyni. Most of them are motivated by patriotism. We must also recall that, as a man of religion and a Shi'ite authority, Khomeyni still enjoys some popular support and influence, but his power and prestige are dwindling daily.

Question: The Iranian opposition is divided. Some factions still favor the former regime but the majority want a republican regime. Where do you stand?

Answer: The former regime is finished and done with forever because history does not reverse itself. Had the shah's regime been a good regime which respected the constitution and enforced the law, the present tragedy would not have occurred. If I were to choose today between the Khomeyni regime and the shah's regime, I would promptly choose the Khomeyni regime because, after Khomeyni, the revolution will complete its march toward a better regime. We Iranian men of religion know perfectly well what our people want because we are very close to the people.

Question: You have said that the shah fell because he did not implement the constitution. Does this mean that you regard the constitution under the shah's regime as having been a good constitution?

Answer: The problem is not in the text of the constitution; it is in the implementation. The constitution under the shah was a

good constitution. The present constitution is a good constitution because it stipulates that all citizens are free under the law. This stipulation, however, has not prevented the regime from violating it.

Question: How do you view the Iraqi-Iranian war?

Answer: It is a war between brothers. I am deeply and equally sad about both Iranian and Iraqi victims. Iraq erred in the beginning when it launched the attack. The Iraqi regime, however, is not responsible for that error. The responsibility falls squarely on certain Iranians who gave the Iraqi regime the impression that the Khomeyni regime would fall as soon as the Iraqi Army crossed the borders. Much of the blame for this tragedy falls on these personalities. By encouraging Iraq to wage war, they in fact demonstrated a lack of patriotism and a failure to understand Iranian national sentiments. However, the moment Iraq expressed its willingness to stop the war, recognize the international border, and withdraw its forces behind that border, and the moment the Gulf states announced their readiness to compensate Iran for its losses resulting from the Iraqi attack, there was no longer any justification for continuing the war. Khomeyni is the only one who wants the war to continue because he thinks that force can solve everything and that the Iranian revolution should be exported to the states of the region. This bloody approach has claimed hundreds of thousands of victims. I do not know how much longer this massacre will continue.

Question: What program do you propose for the phase following the downfall of the present regime?

Answer: First of all, a command council embodying all the republican opposition factions should be formed. It should be supported by the men of religion and its mission should be to run the country's affairs, maintain security, and prepare for a referendum whereby the people would democratically choose a new regime that would provide freedom and equality under the law.

Question: Do you believe the clergy should be part of the new regime or not?

Answer: No law based on equality can ban one group or another from participating in government. The clergy have rights and duties like everyone else. It is a citizen's right to engage in politics if he so wishes.

Radio Iran Reports on Street Clash in Tehran

GF191848 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] The Persian-language broadcasting station in Kermanshah has disclosed that two more revolution guards commanders in Shahabad, Waliollah (Ruziyar) and Qodratollah Mohammadi, were killed in the western warfront.

Another report said that on 1 April, in an armed clash between revolution guard patrols and opponents of the regime on Lalazar Street in Tehran, two revolution guards of the sector five committee in Tehran were killed. One of them was named Nazar 'Ali Kamalpur.

Also in Tehran, as a result of a grenade thrown at the workplace of one of the regime's henchmen and spies on Mansur Street, 'Ali Akbar Shirazi was critically injured and later died in the hospital.